

BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES May 20, 2025 – 5:00 P.M.

The Board of Education of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools district convened a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 20 at 5:00 p.m. at the Harry L. Wheeler Community Center and Administrative Offices, 24076 F.V. Pankow Boulevard, Clinton Township, Michigan.

A. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Mr. Al Doss, Vice President, called the Special Board Meeting (Cost Management Workshop for the 2025 - 2026 school year) to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Al Doss, Vice President

Mrs. Sharon Ross, Secretary Mr. John Da Via, Treasurer Mr. Jeffrey Cyprus, Trustee Mrs. Sandra Hernden, Trustee Mr. Shane Sellers, Trustee

Absent: Mr. Adam Lipski, President

Mr. Jeffrey Cyprus, Trustee

Also present: Mr. Keith Howell, Superintendent

Ms. Lisa Montpas, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Mr. Michael Van Camp, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Ms. Kathy Konon, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations

Ms. Kimberly Rawski, Director for Secondary Education Mr. Tony Sedick, Director for Elementary Education Ms. Nancy Supanich, Director for Special Education

Dr. Major Mickens, Director for Community Education and Student Services

Mr. Brandon Streng, Director for Technology Ms. Beth Disbrow, Director for Finance

Ms. Cheryl Goodall, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Employees and Patrons of the District

Mr. Doss read a statement from Mr. Lipski stating he is unable to attend due to an important family obligation. He stated he has spent countless hours working with Mr. Howell and reaffirmed his commitment to the important work being done on the district budget.

B. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Mr. Sellers, supported by Mr. Da Via, to approve the May 20, 2025 Special Board Meeting agenda as presented.

Yes: All No: None Motion carried.

C. Hearing of Patrons

Michael Lynch, teacher, encouraged the community to contact government representatives to advocate for funds that are still needed for student support as a result of the pandemic.

Elizabeth Allen, district media specialist, instructional technology coach, teacher and former student, spoke about the importance of a two-person instructional technology coach team. Last year, the district invested in a new initiative of one-to-one student iPads at the elementary level. Over the past year, they have rebuilt what technology integration looks like in LC classrooms today. Eliminating one of these positions will stall progress made and risk student success. She has seen students whose voices may not have been previously heard, become creators, collaborators and problem solvers. The two coach team has provided districtwide support to staff, students, and parents. Cutting one of these positions means staff and student reach will be cut in half. She requested this decision be reconsidered.

Michelle Ropp, paraprofessional at Carkenord, expressed concerns about the job cuts happening in the district and about special education resource rooms falling out of ratio due to the job cuts.

Mr. P., community member, stated he's looking forward to the budget presentation. He stated if no cuts are made at the top, a recall will ensue and hopes to see cuts being made in administration.

Heather Budzynowski, technology secretary, president of clerical union, community member and parent of former students, stated while she understands budget cuts and the difficult decisions that come with them, she is speaking on behalf of staff members who will be impacted by the loss of the media tech clerk support of the districtwide student one-to-one devices at the schools. She detailed the responsibilities of the media tech clerks and the critical role they play in the increasing volume of support needed for these devices, along with the other tasks that come with the devices, such as forgotten passwords, sending devices out for repairs, contacting parents, collecting fines for damages, missing chargers, forgotten passwords, etc.

Kerri Stewart, staff member, parent of former student, and former union leader, stated there's no way to make up for the loss of a media clerk in the buildings on a day-to-day basis. She stated she feels if there is a position created, to perhaps help in the technology office with paperwork, collections, tracking, etc. that may possibly help.

D. Cost Management Workshop FY26

Mr. Howell presented the Cost Management Workshop for the 2025-2026 school year.

Mr. Howell opened the floor to questions from the Board.

Discussion followed.

E. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Sellers, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Yes: All No: None Motion carried. Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Ross, Secretary

Board of Education

SLR:cjg